

nondefense discretionary funding, for the Department of Homeland Security.

These taxpayer dollars must be used in a manner consistent with the mission and purpose of the Department of Homeland Security, while using the best methods for assuring adherence to good government principles.

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SETH MOULTON

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Mr. MOULTON. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained from the floor on Wednesday, September 30, 2020 and missed one vote. Had I been present to vote, I would have voted in the following manner: YEA on roll call No. 213.

CELEBRATING LOVELAND CHAPTER 211'S 150TH RE-CONSECRATION

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Mr. WENSTRUP. Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize the Royal Arch Masons at Loveland Chapter 211's re-consecration on October 7, 2020.

Loveland Chapter 211 has served the community since 1870, building a network of over 600 members through the years. Currently, the association has 57 members who proudly dedicate their charter to service, personal development, and the betterment of their community.

Congratulations to Loveland Chapter 211 on this notable anniversary and re-consecration. We are grateful for their many years of service.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL ASHLEY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lieutenant General Robert Ashley on the eve of his retirement, after over 35 years of service to his nation as an Army intelligence officer.

As testament to his competence and character, on two-separate occasions, the Nation entrusted General Ashley with the responsibility to lead different elements of our Intelligence Community.

The congressional intelligence committees are unique as they must truly partner with the organizations they are charged to oversee.

In my time on the Intelligence Committee, and his time leading military intelligence organizations, I have appreciated General Ashley's candor and ability to think strategically.

As the Army's Intelligence Chief, he implemented reforms that saved struggling acquisition programs and delivered tools directly to warfighters.

Most recently, in his tenure as Director of DIA, General Ashley led key initiatives that ensured continuing the transformation of the DIA.

Perhaps most importantly, and in the best tradition of service, General Ashley took time out of his busy schedule to mentor junior intelligence officers. I am confident that this next generation of intelligence professionals will be his most significant and lasting legacy.

General Ashley has done his part to leave the Army, the Department of Defense, the Defense Intelligence Agency, and the Intelligence Community in a stronger position for his successors and the Nation. We wish him well.

HONORING WILLIAM LANSON FOR HIS UNIQUE AND INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CITY OF NEW HAVEN

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, I am honored to rise today to join the Amistad Committee, the City of New Haven, and all of those gathered today in paying tribute to a pioneering African American who quite literally changed the landscape of the City of New Haven, William Lanson, and who ultimately faced defamation and destitution from a white Majority that used its levers of state power to put him into ruin. But, today, we return him to his rightful and honorable place in the history of our town as a bronze statue is dedicated in his honor.

According to a Hartford Courant piece in 2001, quote, "William Lanson was an extraordinary figure in early 19th-century New Haven. Almost certainly an escaped slave, Lanson overcame incredible odds to become a highly successful businessman, one of the earliest black entrepreneurs in Connecticut." William Lanson was a man ahead of his time in many ways, none more so than in the innovative engineering concepts that he brought to his successful projects in the City of New Haven. Though little is known about his earliest years, we do know that Lanson and his family moved to New Haven around 1803 and within just seven years he became the city's principal wharf builder.

In 1810, he was the only contractor able to complete the complicated 1,350-foot extension to the city's Long Wharf, enabling larger boats to dock in the city's port and allowing the city to compete with nearby ports including New York. The extension was only possible because he employed specially designed scows, carefully designed by Lanson himself, capable of carrying twenty-five tons of stone at a time. The stone was quarried by him and his laborers, from nearby East Rock, floated on the scows to the harbor where they were installed to stabilize the pilings for the wharf's extension. Following his success at Long Wharf, Lanson was contracted to build the retaining wall for the newly planned Farmington Canal where it flowed into the harbor basin. These two projects changed the very character of New Haven Harbor and the City itself, further

allowing both to thrive and prosper—a feat which would have not been accomplished without William Lanson's invaluable contributions.

It was more than the architecture of the city to which he contributed. It was its business landscape, its civic culture, and its moral fiber, as an African American leader who fought their disenfranchisement. He was a successful businessman, operating a hotel, grocery, and livery service, as well as a founding member of the Temple Street Church, which later became the Dixwell Avenue Congregational United Church of Christ. He was a fierce abolitionist and advocate for voting rights.

According to research by Yale, in 1811, the Reverend Timothy Dwight, President of Yale College, praised William Lanson, as quote, "honourable proof of the character which they sustain, both for capacity, and integrity, in the view of respectable men." But, as the Yale research said, quote, "By the end of the 1820s such praise had all but vanished . . . and Lanson found himself beset financially and attacked and ridiculed." According to Amy L. Trout, curator at the New Haven Colony Historical Society, quote, "he was constantly harassed by the police. The minute he was released from the police station and got home, he would be arrested for something else."

Late in life, Lanson wrote that he was jailed five times in six years for a total of 450 days, for selling liquor at his hotel, the Liberian, a very common practice. The pressure continued until he died forgotten, defamed, and destitute. So, we right that wrong. And, we must. Lanson was an unbelievably important and impressive man, an African American who reshaped, reformed, and re-invigorated. Doing so as an African American in the 19th century. He was a force.

William Lanson left an indelible mark on the City of New Haven and I am glad to be able to witness our community coming together to recognize, celebrate, and preserve his story. My deepest thanks to the dedicated members of the Amistad Committee and the City of New Haven who have ensured that William Lanson's contributions to our community will always be remembered.

COVID PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, AND EFFECTIVE PLANNING FOR ADVANCED REQUIREMENTS BY THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH ACT OF 2020

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2020

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as the Founding Chair of the Coronavirus Task Force and a senior member of the Judiciary and Homeland Committees, I rise in strong support of H.R. 7496, the "COVID PREPARE Act," which requires every federal agency to submit a report to Congress on the steps they are taking to respond to a potential resurgence of COVID-19, including measurable goals, anticipated challenges, and how they will consult with Congress.

I would like to thank Representatives BRAD SCHNEIDER and JOHN KATKO for introducing and leading this important piece of legislation.